



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural
Statistics

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 7

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Rain along with wet soil conditions kept farmers out of their fields during most of the week. Harvesting of corn and soybeans resumed in some areas late in the week and during the weekend, according to Indiana Agricultural Statistics. Planting of winter wheat has been delayed on some farms, especially in the southwestern region. The large corn and soybean crop has created delays in drying, storage and hauling to local elevators. Lodging of corn plants is evident in many fields. Corn harvest is on par with the average pace. Soybean harvest is now behind both last year and the average pace. Farmers continued to visit their local FSA offices.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 2.9 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Eighty-six percent of the corn acreage is **harvested** compared with 79 percent last year and 86 percent for the average. By area, 81 percent of the corn acreage is harvested in the north, 90 percent in the central region and 89 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested corn is averaging about 17 percent.

Ninety-three percent of the soybean acreage is **harvested** compared with 96 percent last year and 96 percent for the average. By area, 94 percent of the soybean acreage is harvested in the north, 97 percent in the central region and 83 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested soybeans is averaging about 12.5 percent.

Eighty-eight percent of the winter wheat acreage is **planted** compared with 98 percent last year and 97 percent for the average pace. By area, 99 percent of the winter wheat acreage is planted in the north, 93 percent in the central region and 77 percent in the south. Seventy-nine percent of the winter wheat acreage is **emerged** compared with 85 percent last year and 84 percent for the average pace.

Other activities during the week were spreading fertilizer and lime, chopping corn stalks, moving grain to market, fall tillage, cleaning fence rows, tiling fields, cleaning up and repairing equipment, stripping tobacco, hauling manure and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pastures continue to improve, helped by the recent rains. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Feeding of hay has started on a few livestock farms. Marketing of feeder calves is taking place.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Harvested	86	80	79	86
Soybeans Harvested	93	90	96	96
Winter Wheat Planted	88	82	98	97
Winter Wheat Emerged	79	62	85	84

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Winter Wheat	1	3	24	57	15

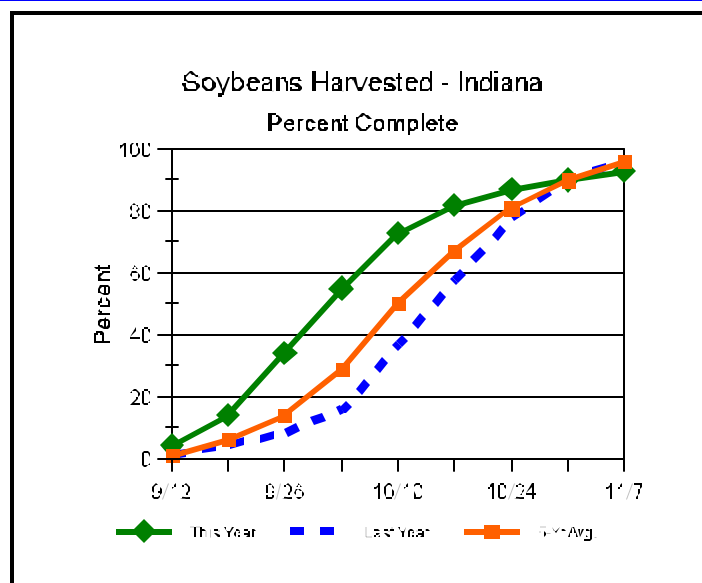
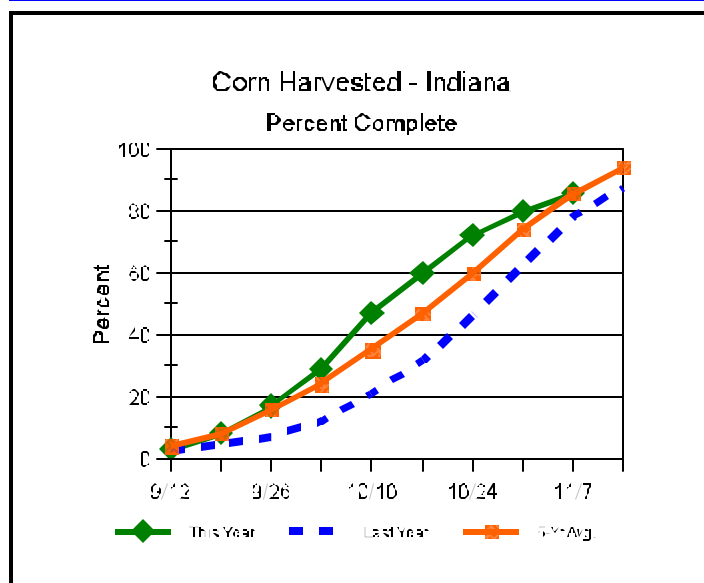
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	1	0
Short	2	6	5
Adequate	71	73	86
Surplus	27	20	9
Subsoil			
Very Short	1	2	3
Short	10	20	9
Adequate	79	72	82
Surplus	10	6	6
Days Suitable	2.9	3.5	5.2

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Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Economist: When It Comes To Taxes, Farmers Create Own Breaks

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - Farmers can't control the weather or the prices they receive for their crops, but they can exert a strong influence over what they owe Uncle Sam at tax time.

Tax laws allow agricultural producers the same deductions that small businesses enjoy, with a few added benefits, said George Patrick, a Purdue University agricultural economist and tax specialist.

"A farmer who has made capital investments has the ability to write off a tremendous amount of that investment in the year of purchase," Patrick said. "But the way our tax laws are set up with the standard deduction and the personal exemptions - if you've got children under the age of 17, there's a tax credit - you're probably better off taking advantage of those as much as you can. You should not, however, take your taxable income down so low that you don't get those tax benefits.

"As a producer, you need to look at what will minimize your taxes over time. Or, as I prefer to look at it, what's going to maximize your wealth after you pay taxes."

Understanding new tax laws and regulations and taking full advantage of what the federal tax code permits is a central theme of the annual Purdue Income Tax School and Agricultural Tax Workshops. The meetings take place at various locations across Indiana in November and December.

A recent change in the tax code raised the amount farmers can deduct for certain farm-related purchases. In some cases, producers can avoid paying tax altogether - at least for the current tax year.

"This is the last year that an additional first-year depreciation will be available, where an individual can deduct up to 50 percent of the cost of something new that they've purchased," Patrick said. "Also, Congress has extended the Section 179 expensing allowance through 2007, which allows a farmer or businessperson to write off a purchase of up to \$100,000 in the year the purchase is made."

Because farmers often sell grain months after crops are harvested, their income can fluctuate from year to year, Patrick said. Such fluctuations have tax ramifications.

"The thing we need to remember is that most farmers use a cash method of accounting, so it's when they buy and sell things that determines their income," he said. "If farmers delayed making sales from the 2003 crop until they got some of those high prices back in the late spring and early summer, they may have a tremendous taxable income. They will need to do some year-end tax planning to, maybe, buy some inputs for the 2005 season to manage that taxable income.

"It's going to be important for every farmer to see where they stand financially and run the year-to-date numbers on income and expenses."

The Purdue Income Tax School addresses those issues, as well as tax laws in general. The two-day schools are geared toward professional tax preparers. Speakers include Patrick, Internal Revenue Service specialists, Indiana Department of Revenue representatives and certified public accountants, among others.

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday November 7, 2004

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil Temp	April 1, 2004 thru November 7, 2004				
								Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	65	34	48	+2	1.93	5	49	34.69	+9.41	75	3097	-124
Valparaiso_AP_I	63	34	47	+2	1.95	4		24.63	-3.35	77	2916	-32
Wanatah	65	31	46	+2	2.35	4	50	26.93	+0.23	85	2661	-132
Wheatfield	66	32	47	+3	1.87	4		41.47	+15.91	83	2810	-37
Winamac	64	31	47	+3	1.51	4	46	33.31	+7.53	91	2952	+13
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	64	33	46	+2	1.44	4		30.35	+3.74	87	2822	-276
South_Bend	63	34	47	+2	1.84	4		26.14	+0.08	86	3023	+120
Young_America	64	33	48	+4	1.27	3		31.24	+6.06	77	3096	+61
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	61	32	47	+3	1.20	5	47	27.80	+2.70	90	2819	+51
Fort_Wayne	63	35	49	+4	0.74	4		28.14	+5.15	84	3087	+36
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	67	32	50	+4	1.74	5		28.90	-0.02	83	3055	-411
Perrysville	67	32	51	+6	1.65	3	56	26.74	-0.09	69	3375	+165
Spencer_Ag	69	35	52	+6	1.68	4		34.06	+5.19	87	3304	+74
Terre_Haute_AFB	69	36	53	+6	1.74	4		25.44	-1.79	77	3629	+190
W_Lafayette_6NW	65	33	48	+3	1.41	3	55	27.43	+1.99	63	3057	+21
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	66	36	53	+7	1.60	3		24.94	-0.53	80	3532	+130
Greenfield	67	35	50	+5	1.84	4		28.39	+0.42	80	3277	+10
Indianapolis_AP	66	33	53	+6	1.74	4		33.17	+7.70	77	3645	+243
Indianapolis_SE	65	35	51	+4	1.73	3		27.32	+1.09	68	3331	-64
Tipton_Ag	66	31	49	+5	0.84	3	53	27.23	+0.88	82	2986	+51
East Central (6)												
Farmland	65	34	50	+5	1.56	5	45	25.96	+0.89	79	3016	+155
New_Castle	63	32	48	+4	1.68	4		27.19	+0.29	61	2688	-246
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	77	39	57	+8	1.74	4		29.09	+3.07	70	4190	+220
Freelandville	73	36	53	+6	1.54	4		33.11	+6.13	73	3677	+121
Shoals	74	34	54	+7	1.82	4		35.63	+6.35	76	3693	+244
Stendal	78	37	56	+8	2.06	4		34.07	+5.20	72	3972	+248
Vincennes_5NE	72	36	53	+5	1.80	4	55	33.51	+6.53	85	3825	+269
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	73	37	54	+6	2.94	4		41.54	+12.07	84	3744	+320
Oolitic	73	35	53	+7	1.71	5	55	35.48	+7.28	87	3486	+210
Tell_City	78	42	57	+8	2.74	4		38.71	+9.27	71	4286	+434
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	67	37	53	+8	0.79	3		24.45	-2.58	69	3516	+416
Milan_5NE	67	36	52	+7	1.42	4		33.92	+6.89	108	3421	+321
Scottsburg	72	37	54	+6	1.91	4		41.87	+14.09	77	3556	+17

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Economist: When It Comes To Taxes, Farmers Create Own Breaks (Continued)

The school schedule includes:

- Nov. 3-4 - Hulman Memorial Student Union, Indiana State University, Terre Haute.
- Nov. 15-16 - Walb Union Building, Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne; and Horizon Convention Center, Muncie.
- Nov. 18-19 - Century Center, South Bend; and the Union Building, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso.
- Nov. 22-23 - Stewart Center, Purdue University, West Lafayette; and Marriott Hotel, 7202 E. 21st St., Indianapolis.
- Nov. 29-30 - American Legion Post No. 89, Seymour; and Vanderburgh County 4-H Center, Evansville.
- Dec. 2-3 - Adam's Mark Hotel, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis; and Johanning Civic Center, Kokomo.

Registration begins at 8 a.m., with programs running from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All times are local.

The registration fee is \$279 and includes the 2004 National Income Tax School Workbook. Registration can be completed online at:

<http://www.conf.purdue.edu/tax>
or at (800) 359-2968.

The Purdue Agricultural Tax Workshops provide in-depth discussion of farm-related tax issues, including deductions, self-employment taxes, government payments, conservation and cost sharing. The half-day programs are appropriate for tax preparers and farm managers.

Trenna Grabowski, a certified public accountant and a contributor to Farm Progress Publications, will lead the workshops.

Workshops will take place Nov. 8 at the Vanderburgh County 4-H Center, Evansville; Nov. 9 at Adam's Mark Hotel, 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis; and Nov. 10 at Ramada Inn, 2519 E. Center St., Warsaw. Registration begins at 8 a.m. local time, with workshops slated from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Registration is \$135, or \$85 for those also attending the tax school. Online and phone registrations can be made through the Web address and toll-free number listed above.

For additional information about the tax school or workshops, contact Patrick at (765) 494-4241, gpatrick@purdue.edu.

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Agriculture News Page at: <http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/AgComm/public/agnews/>

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Purdue University Department of Agricultural Economics at: <http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/>

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